process. New high yielding varieties are released every year, and during 1999-2000, nine such varieties were released.

Funds for Agriculture/Horticulture Development

†1251. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided amounts to State Governments for the development of their agriculture/horticulture research institutions;

(b) if so, the names of States which have received amounts during the last three years, with year-wise amounts provided to them; and

(c) the achievements of such institutions during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education does not provide any amount directly to State Governments for the development of their agricultural/horticultural research institutions.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Damage due to Rain and Floods

1252. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of damage sustained by different States due to torrential rain and heavy floods during the current years;

(b) whether the Central assistance have been granted to those States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) The State Governments of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala and Punjab have reported damage due to heavy rains/floods in varying degrees.

(b) and (c) As per the interim recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission, instalments of Central share of Calamiuty Relief Fund for the year 2000-01 have already been released by the Ministry of Finance to the States as follow:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(Rs. in crore)

State	Amount released
Assam	15.66
Arunachal Pradesh	4.40
Bihar	-
Kerala	17.34
Punjab	16.95

Target for Oilseed Production

†1253. SHRIMATI KUMKUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for oilseeds production during the year 1997-98, 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) whether the target was achieved; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to promote oilseed production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) The production target of Oilseeds as well as the achievement made during the year 1997-98, 1998-1999 and 1999-2000 is as under:

(in million tonnes)

Year	Target	Achievement
1997-1998	25.50	21.32
1998-1999	27.00	25.21
1999-2000	27.00	21.14

(c) In order to increase the production of oilseeds in the country, a Centrally sponsored Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is in implementation in 25 States covering 397 selected districts. Under the Programme financial assistance is being provided for the critical inputs like production and distribution of seeds, distribution of seed minikits, sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, gypsum/pyrites, micro-nutrients, rhizobium culture etc. to the farmers through State Govts. In addition to this, frontline

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.